

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/811,943

Examiner

Trevor McGraw

Applicant(s)

NOBILI, FABRIZIO

Art Unit

3752

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 05/18/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4,6-11 and 13-20.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 05/18/2007
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The present invention is allowable for at least the following reasons where the prior art of record fails to teach a water treatment system that has a treated water conduit and untreated water conduit where the treated water conduit is disposed within the untreated water conduit and the conduits are out of fluid communication with one another. The untreated water conduit and treated water conduit pass through a shower head for selective operation to deliver water to respective delivery point openings as desired by a user and are further arranged to be connected at a coupling at the base of the showerhead handle. The prior art of record also fails to teach where coupling of the showerhead handle has respective openings for the treated and untreated water conduits to pass through and permits water to flow through from each respective conduit to their respective delivery point opening and a flexible pipe additionally surrounds the treated and untreated water conduits to protect the conduits. The prior art of record fails to further teach where the valve stem of the valve controlling water flowing through the treated water conduit moves in an S-shaped portion of the showerhead and comes out to an L-shaped end portion of the conduit in an orthogonal arrangement.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Arguments

Objection to Drawing

Applicant's arguments, see page 7, filed 05/18/2007, with respect to the objection to the drawings have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objection to drawing Figure 1 has been withdrawn in view of Applicant's newly submitted drawings that distinctly show the labeled S-Shaped portion.

The drawings were received on 05/18/2007. These drawings are acceptable.

Rejection under 35 USC § 102

Applicant's arguments, see pages 79, filed 05/18/2007, with respect to Claims 1-3 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of Claims 1-3 held under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) has been withdrawn in view of Applicant's amendment to Claim 1.

Rejection under 35 USC § 103

Applicant's arguments, see pages 9-10, filed 05/18/2007, with respect to Claims 1-4, 6-11 and 13 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of Claims 1-4, 6-11 and 13 held under 35 U.S.C. § 103 has been withdrawn.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Trevor McGraw whose telephone number is (571) 272-7375. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (2nd & 4th Friday Off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kevin Shaver can be reached on (571) 272-4720. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Trevor McGraw
Art Unit 3752

TEM

KEVIN SHAVER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700